SOME NEW BOOKS.

Morley's Life of Edmund Burke.

For Englishmen and for Americans the life of Burke must always form a fruitful and essential part of political education. It is a life pregnant with inspiration, with suggestion, and with warnings. It is a magazine of high ideals, shrewd maxims, and superb achievements, but it is also stored with dicta of perverted ingenuity, and with deplorable examples. The sovereign power of his written ord, and the relative impotence of his spoker utterance-his inflexible championship of party through the major part of his career, and his violent defiance of partisan and friendly ties at a later epoch-the good which he unquestion ably accomplished, and that which he strangely left undone, and the grievous wrong against humanity wrought by his implacable fomenting of the crusade against the nascent liberties of France-these, and a multitude of services deflections, and inconsistencies of fatal short coming, and of splendid desert, make up one of the most complex, obscure, and contradictory yet impressive and instructive lessons in the history of politics. It is a lesson which no two men will be apt to read alike, which none can sean without a wavering opinion and a mingled metion, and upon which no man of a cautious and sober temper would venture to pronounce a peremptory, dogmatic judgment. Yet it is one which every man must study who would understand the English Constitution as it stood in a sharp crisis of its growth, and as it looked to the keen eye of its most accomplished, affec-Nor tionate, and conservative expounder. should it prove less pertingt and useful to those who would discern the abstract worth and fundamental design of the American Constitution, whose fashioning-so far as the aims and conceptions of Federalist framers were concorned-is replete with signs of Bucke's influ ence and teaching. We should welcome, therefore, any earnest effort to appraise the work and character of the great British orator, and we have reason to be specially grateful that the task should be attempted by such a man as FORN MORLEY, in the succinct but vigorous and temarkable biography now published by the Harpers. It seems to us that one view of Murke's attitude and performance has never been so trenchantly and engagingly portrayed, that one side of the story has never been so powerfully told, but that for that very reason the most cursory notice should confine itself to wary, inquisitive, and, so to speak, unsympathetic criticism. Mr. Morley has come forward as the deliberate, thorough-going defender of Burke, and though such men as Mackintosh and Macaulay have been more extravagant and indiscriminate in their admiration, we cannot but think the subject of this memoir has here found his most resolute and persuasive advocate. It is only proper, when Burke's virtues are so tenderly depicted, and when the scope and quality of his statesmanship are brought out with so much omphasis, that others should touch here and there some of the faults and fallures, the rude tergiversations, and perilous excesses which are but faintly and mildly sketched on Mr

Morley's canvas. There are three aspects in which Burke's admirers evince much reluctance to regard him, but which should not be overlooked in the most rapid survey of his relation to his nation and his time. These features of the theme which are dimmed or foreshortened in the new blography, must be held in strict attention by those who would not be dazzled by the glow of Burke's patriotic aims and the lustre of his rhetorical attainments, or silenced by the vibrations of his sonorous eloquence. We must turn our eyes now and then from Burke, the orator and thinker, the framer of far-shining principles, and the master of theoretical statecraft, and learn to look at him in the less creditable rôles of an obstructionist and a reactionist. Nor should we omit to inquire by what warp of disposition or infirmity of temper he was insapacitated for concerted action, and on the rare occasions when his party was in power cut off from a place in the Cabinet to which his abilities seemed to loudly summon him. In each of these respects we shall find Burke's conduct and confactor copplying all the state strange vicissitudes of his public life, and the conflicting judgments of contemporaries and of posterity. And first, when we consider him in the light of an obstructionist, we shall perceive ourselves signally aided in gauging the range and value of his political philosophy. It was in the year 1770, at a momentous juncture in English constitutional history, that Burke bent all the powers of his ripened intellect and irritation which would have hurried him to large private influence to stem the current of gross lengths if Fox and Sheridan had not, by just discontent, to perplex and divide the main force, pulled him down into his seat by well-intentioned statesmer to consolidate the most grievous and flagrant abuses in the existing system of popplar representation. A very brief summary of facts will show that mainly on Burke's shoulders rests the odium of prolonging the monstrous anomaly of rotten boroughs, of postponing for two generations the enlargement of the franchise, and of blocking for half century the course of parliamentary reform. At that time Burke may be described as the notive power and master spirit of the whole Whig party, since he was the tongue and pen of its most disinterested, progressive, and popular coterie, nominally controlled by the Marquis of Rockingham. There was a burning desire throughout the non-represented classes, and a widespread conviction on the part of the Whig iders that the suffrage needed widening, and the House of Commons reconstruction. Burke might, if he had chosen, have given a directness, unanimity, and vehemence to the movement which nothing could have long withstood. seeing that the Crown's power of resistance was far weaker at that epoch than it grow to be after the persistent and tolerated encroachments of the Napoleonic wars. The precise converse of this attitude was taken by the bril-Bant rhetorician, in whom American Federalists. were subsequently to recognize the model of a true republican. When, in his famous pamphlet on the "Present Discontents," Burks came to discuss the cure for the political disorders of 1770. he insisted on contenting himself with what he should have known to be grossly inadequate prescriptions. He vigorously and successfully sounced all the remedies which the various sections of the opposition proposed against the existing debasement and servicity of the Lower House, The Constitutional Society, for instance, was clamoring for frequent Parlia ments, for the exclusion of placemen from the House, and the increase of the county representation. The Duke of Richmond and his following demanded universal suffrage, equal electoral districts, and annual Parliaments What was even more significant of the general awakening to the true cause of the mischief. and the right method of treatment. Wilkes proposed to disfranchise the rotten boroughs, to increase the county constituencies, and to bestow members on rich, populous trading towns -the precise general policy which was accepted fifty-six years afterward. Such were the honorable purposes and wise designs of his coworkers, while Burke, who, with the exception of a single term, sat for rotten boroughs all his life, obstinately refused to countenance any of these proposals, and by arraying one against shother, with specious strictures upon all, con trived to frustrate any joint plan of efficient action, and balked the reasonable hopes of a disinherited nation. Those hasty persons who quote Burke as an oracle of democratic doctrine would do well to ponder his queer recipes for dealing with the grave distempers of counterfeit legislature. Thus he does not scruple to declare that it would be more conformable to the spirit of the Constitution "by lessening the number to add to the weight and independency of our voters." Or, again, that considering the immense and dangerous charge of elections, the prostitute and daring venality, the corruption of manners the idle ness and profligacy of the lower sort of voters.

no prudent man would venture to increase

such an evil." In another place he denies that

the people have " enough of speculation in the

closet, or of experience in business to be com-petent judges, either of the detail of particular

which rejected every decisive innovation and material change gave deep displeasure to his more liberal coadjutors in the Whig combina-tion. The Constitutional Society was furious. Lord Chatham wrote to Lord Rockingham that the work in which those doctrines appeared must do much damage to the common cause. We may add that, willing as Mr. Morley is to subordinate the standows of his picture, he concedes that the Constitution which Burke professed to hold so sacred, and in which he would not suffer one jot or tittle to be altered, was one of the most inadequate and mischlevous policical arrangements that any free country has

ever had to endure. The capacious fact that English reformers and mainly Burke to thank for the protracted clipse of their own hopes, naturally prompts us to examine what real ground we have to be grateful for the British orator's support of the American cause during the Revolutionary war. He was lond of telling the English people that we were fighting their battles, that our cause was their own; but, as we have seen, he never dreamed of giving the mass of Englishmen that dectoral freedom for which we were contending. He would have been prompt to explode as a glittering generality, had its application been brought home to the British islands, the Initial postulate of our declaration, that all men are free and equal, in a political sense. Nor could he have been sensible at heart to the staple colonial complaint of taxation without representation, when he could turn a ear to the outcry from distranchised Manchester and other crescent centres of English industry and trade. It is impossiole, in short, that the author of the tract on the Present Discontents" should have been a horough-going advocate of American principles or a profound sympathizer with colonial wrongs. He opposed the coercion of America for the simple reason that it was a pet project of the King's party, which it was his capital object to discredit in the country and break down in Parliament. The object which he sought to gain had nothing at all in common with popular aspirations and the triumph of republican institutions. He merely desired to purge the House of Commons from the influence of the Crown, not to make it the organ of a people, but the pliant tool of a Whig oligarchy, whose limits, as we have seen, he would rather contract than widen, and whose generous impulses he, more than any man in England, had stifled and brought to naught. In a word, we see Edmund Burke in his obstructive action revealing himself in his true character of a narrow austers aristograf, willing to do much for the people, but rejuctant to permit them to do anything for themselves. From this fundamental posture his mind never swerved, and in it we find the secret of the seeming inconsistencies which startled his contemporaries. Alike in the restrictive energies of his earlier manhood and the reactionary violence of his later years we detect the steadfast arrogance of conservative exclusiveness and an inveterate contempt of the popular intelligence. There was nothing surprising, after all, in a champion of rotten boroughs standing forth as the courtly panegyrist of Marie Antoinette and the furious asillant of the French revolution.

Before glancing at Burke's attitude toward the great regenerative movement of the eighteenth century, let us look for a moment at those personal traits which seem to have unfitted him for practical cooperation in the conduct of affairs. Obviously the fact that a man of such eminence and authority in the councils of his party never received a seat in the Cabinet, or a place higher than that of Paymaster of the Forces, calls for some explanation. Singularly cool and sagacious as his rules and formula of party management appear on paper, he was the first to violate them, and his faults of temper and discretion were notorious. His frantic animosity, for instance against political opponents often carried him so far as to breed a positive reaction in those who listened to him. Such, Miss Burney relates, was the impression left upon her by the indiscriminate invective mind poured upon Warren Hastings, And a Whig observer wrote that Burke's "maobloquy and insolent pamphlets against Land Gi thorne ware date. else to fix the latter in his office." Again, the first act of Burke, as a member of the coalition ministry in 1783, was, to say the least, supremely injudicious. He arbitrarily restored, it appears, to their position two clerks who had been suspended for malversation, and against whom proceedings werethen pending. When attacked for this, moreover, in the House, he showed an upon the same uncontrollable passion is chargeable the final and public rupture with Fox, which seems to have been almost wholly unprovoked, and to which his friend replied with tears. We may also mention that Burke's violence in the course of the regency debates pro duced strong disapproval in the public and downright consternation in his own party. On one occasion he is described, by a respectable eye-witness, as having been "wilder than ever and laid himself and his party more open than ever speaker did. He is folly personified, though shaking his cap and bolls under the laurel of genius." The late Lord Lanadowne, who must have heard the subject frequently discussed by those who were most concerned in it, was once asked by an eminent man of our own time why the Whigs kept Burke out of their Cabinets, "Burke," he cried; "he was so violent, so overbearing, so arrogant, so intractable, that to have got on with him in a Cabinet would have been utterly and absolutely impossible." When we add that Burke's influence was thrice fatal to his best friends, that, according to Mr. Morley's admission, he was responsible for the break up of the Whig Cabinet after Lord Rockingham's death: that he ruined the coalition ministry by insisting on a wildly impracticable measure, and that he shattered the Whig party for nearly a generation by his clamor against French Republicans, we can easily account for the modest posts accorded to him by his colleagues without invoking national prejudica or the jealousy of old Whig families. If Burke failed to profit by his few opportunities of executive usefulness, we may ascribe, with Mr. Morley, his disappointment to congenital infirmities of temperament, just as we should like to attribute the far-reaching harm inflicted by his obstructive and reactionary acts to unconscious defect of knowledge and miscarriage of judgment.

It cannot easily be forgotten by those who recognize in the French upheaval of '89 the greatest social deliverance and awakening that the world has seen, that in a conspicuous and superlative sense Burke must be held accountable for the iniquitous coalition organized to strangle the new birth, and which evoked all the horrors kindled by panic and despair. Does any student of French history doubt that the reign of terror was the desperate rejoinder. to the menace of assault and ruin from without and from within, to the march of allied armies levied at British instigation, and the mutiny of their own provinces fomented by British gold? And can any student of English history, though he should look no further than the pages of Mr. Morley's biography, question how it happened that the freest of European monarchies came to be chief partner and promoter of such an odious enterprise? There is a current, but strangely erroneous, impression that Pitt is to be blamed, because he happened to be Prime Minister, for the strange attitude of England. The truth is very different, as Mr. Morley indicates, notwithstanding his willingness to veil and extenuate the consequences of Burke's savage, headlong. infectious, and most calamitous declamation. The English nation was indisputably disposed to view with interest and sympathy the upward gropings of a long-suffering and magnanimous race. The Whig party was outspoken in their eager approval of the wholesome innovations introduced by the National Assembly, while Pitt, with the Tory party behind him, concurred in halling the auspicious dawn of a new era. But for Burke and his lurid, penetrating, sinister eloquence, this might have been the constant

great orator been enlisted on the side of liberty. And who shall say what bracing influence, what salutary restraint, what scrone confidence and wise moderation might have been developed in France by the consciousness of earnest, kindly, and hopeful regard on the part of a sister cor monwealth. Surely the wild course of things might have been controlled and tempered, could Frenchmen have beheld in England their patient friend and well wisher, instead of their malignant and implacable encury.

We can scarcely measure the extent of Burke's responsibility in this matter without an attenive collation of dates. When in 1790 he pub ished his "Reflections on the Revolution of France," the name of republic had never been so much as whispered. This was the precise moment when the hopes of the best men in France shone most brightly and seemed most reasonable, So far, too, Marie Autoinette, whose unmerited agonies were set forth so poignantly by Burke's fervid pen, had in reality suffered nothing beyond the accidental indignities of the days of October at Versailles, What is more pertinent, the French people animated by a lofty nurpose and seems in their consciousness of right, heard with indifference the menace of their emigrant nobles from the Prussian frontier. The fact is that there was no serious project of invasion, much less of a general coercive coalition, until Burke's propaganda of repression and chastisement and paved the way.

It took three years to divert the instinctive sympathies of the English nation and to shake the steadfast good will of Pitt. Yet as early as the beginning of 1791, before he had followed his first distribe by his "Appeal from the New to the Old Whies." Burke despatched his son to Coblentz to give aggressive advice to the royalist exiles. By the end of the same year, when he wrote the "Thoughts on French Affairs," he was launched on the full tide of his crossding policy. This man, who twenty years before had declared he knew not how to frame an indictment against a whole people, now cried aloud for foreign intervention, summoned alien armies to lay waste the soil of France and hem in the revolution with a corden of fire. Such preaching and the gradual spread of apprehension and dismay which it prepared England were followed on the continent by the massing of the Duke of Brunswick's army, by the attempted escape of the French King and Queen, and by the advent of a vigitant. stern, and angry spirit in the councils of the cheated and persecuted commonwealth. Yet even then, amid the swift sequence of ominous events provoked by the impatience and alarm of a people traduced on every hand and isolated in Europe. Burke could not force the English Government to join in his flerce outcry of "Ecrase's linfame!" It was not until 1793, when he had won over the Tory rank and file and split the Whig party into fragments, and when foreign invasion had borne its natural fruit in the execution of the French King, that Pitt lost not so much his head as his footbold, and yielded to the storm of hate and consterna-tion which Burke had conjured forth. Such are the dates and facts, and they prove that none can share with Burke the deplorable honor of arraying the countrymen of Pym and Eliot and Hampden against the comrades of Lafayette

and Mirabeau. We are concerned to remember Burke in these unpleasant characters as the opponent of electoral reform and the apostle of reaction, because, although the blots on his political career are not ignored by his blographer, there is a way of lowering the due emphasis and proportion of such considerations without actually suppressing them. We need not say, however, that one of the most brilliant lives in English history must be studied in its merits and felicities as well as in its errors. For its manifold achievements and disinterested aims, for its sterling virtues and unpublished benignities. we can safely refer the reader to Mr. Morley's pages. There they will find Burke's greatness portrayed in adequate outline and with appropriate colors, and his weakness referred to insufficient knowledge, or the innate, incorrigible bent of a conservative intellect. Doubtless, Burke, like the rest of us, was, in a decisive easure, what inheritance and circumstance had made him. By what lights he had he took his bearings, and strove to shape his course. And who, after all, shall visit him with scorn, or with summary condemnation, if in the shock and uproar of the tempest his eye rather sought the havens of the familiar shore than the strange and sombre spaces of an untraversed

It is tene at all ovents that Bucks has outlived his enemies, his critics, and his coadjutors, and that no Englishman of his century fills so broad and high a piace in the estimate of posolt when Mackintosh speaks of Shakespeare and Bucke in the same breath, as being both of them above more talent. Nor will some perhaps dissent when Macaulay, after reading Burke's works over again, exclaims: " How admirablethe greatest man since Milton!" To us such resonant analogies seem to go wide of the Looking both to his intellectual quality and his practical influence on his country and his age, we would rather assign to Burke much such a place in English constitutional history as Cicero now occupies in the reconstructed story of that Roman oligarchy whose merited collapse was once mistaken for the downfall of genuine republican institutions. M. W. H.

A Meritorious Product of American Scholar-

The Latin English Dictionary, edited by CHARLTON T. LEWIS and CHARLES SHORT, and lately published by the Harpers, is substantially a new work. It is based on the translation of Dr. Freund's great Latin-German Lexicon. edited by the late Dr. Andrews, and put forth nearly thirty years ago; but it has been materially enlarged, carefully revised, and in large part rewritten. It appears that the original version was submitted some time since to Dr. Freund himself, who corrected many errors and supplied about two thousand additions; but the book, though improved, seemed to de mand more thorough reconstruction, in view of the advances made in linguistic science and in all those departments of learning which shape and facilitate the task of the lexicographer. The present compilers, accordingly have not scrupled to add, alter, or expunge whenever in their judgment the text of their predecessor seemed to call for such treatment. They have drawn freely from all other appropriate sources, turning to account such fruits of recent research, collation, and analysis as are neecssible in print, and profiting by the assistance of such specially qualified scholars as Prof. George M. Lane of Harvard University and Dr. Gustavus Fischer of New Brunswick. The results of their unremitting labors for several years are now given to the public in a large quarto volume of some two thousand pages.

Not only to the classical student, but to the general reader concerned to gain authentic information in a clear and succinct form, such a book is replete with interest and suggestion. little reflection will disclose how broad a field of knowledge must be warily surveyed and diligently worked in order to collect, verify, condense, and organize the recondite and diverse materials out of which a dictionary is constructed. In the case of a Latin lexicon we expect to learn the correct graphic form of the characters employed by the classical writers. as well as the process of evolution and divergence which these underwent, and to this end a compiler must evince an acquaintance with the latest and most authoritative deductions and discoveries flowing from the scrutiny and comparison of manuscripts or the relatively modern study of inscriptions. We also look to find some explicit and trustworthy account of the Roman pronunciation, so that when our lips essay to utter the pranomen or cognomen of a distinguished author or soldier it may be with some assurance that the person contemplated would recognize his own name. We need not say that in this respect a most signal | to be the guardian of property in genimprovement has taken place within the past thirty years on improvement stimulated, and to a large extent directed, by progress in the cognate branch of orthographical inquiry.

to anticipate that a lexicon published in 1879 former only a god of trade, which was but one will be far more accurate and instructive than a compilation made three decades earlier. Not only has the mass of specific Latin data for tracing the origin and affinities of roots been enlarged and classified, but the science of philology has contributed new methods of research and luminous analogies, by which the student is enabled to push much further the genealogy of words and to discriminate innumerable fresh shades of meaning. Even in the wellworn paths of Latin accidence and syntax the parallels, or deflections, or illustrations exhibited by other offshoots of the Aryan mother speech, have compelled a new and by no means unfruitful survey of the ground; and finally, when we turn to the main function of a lexicon, that of definition, we may fairly require a much higher degree of fullness and precision than was called for by the academic standard of the last generation. The task of determining and expounding the meaning of words has been immeasurably furthered by the work performed in philology and in the cognate science of comparative mythology, and, by the untiring labors of antiquarian research in religion, law, social structure, civil administration, domestic manners, and all the channels of Roman thought and life. How patiently and effectively the compilers of this volume have striven to wall themselves of all these resources, may b faintly indicated by cailing a few test words of peculiar interest from a linguistic, mythological or social point of view, and marking the scope and carefulness of treatment here bestowed on them.

Before glaneing at some features of this lexcon which attest the editors' acquaintance with philological conclusions, we may mark several changes in orthography which are now sanctioned by the general consent of scholars, and are adopted in this volume. For example, our old friends adolescens and epistola are adules cens and epistula. Arean is harena, and arundo is harundo. We have also herus for erus, conjunz for conjux, and kalenda preferred to calendar, In like manner proper names have undergone alterations not unlikely to disturb old-fashioned students. Among these may be noted Dareus Genava, Parnasus, Pompeius, Ulixes, Volcanus, and Vergillus. Here we may mention the modified pronunciation entacked by a recognition of the hard sound belonging to the Latin C. and of that letter's frequent substitution for G, as, for instance, in the abreviation for the prenomen Gaius; thus we must say Rikero and Skiplo, and Galus Kæser, bearing in mind also that the Latin dipthong m represents a junction, not of a and e, but a and i. It is curious to mark how perfectly the German title Kaiser bestowed open the head of the hely Roman Empire, has preserved the pronunciation of the classic name. Such primitive words as vir. femina, pater,

mater, domus, ovis, arcus, ensis, and argentum

the Italian tribes brought with them

revealing the degree of civilization which

their Asiatic cradle land, are interpreted, not only by the context of Latin authors, but by comparison with correlatives in Sanserif and other Indo-European languages. We observe, however, that while the articles on inquam and sum bear tokens of much care, they fail to signalize the fact that these presents are the only survivals in Latin of a form exactly preserved in Sanscrit, and of which the Greek keeps a larger number of vestiges in the so-called "verbs in mi." We think, too, that the translations of phrases involving unusual constructions, such as the genitive of place, the dative of purpose or result and the socalled ethical dative, the accusative of place and distance, and the ablative of price, might have been a good deal illumined by a word or two about the precedents and analogues in the Sanscrit and other kindred tongues. Like illustrations would have helped the student to understand the Latin reduplicated perfect," which is really present in sense as well as that tense expressing completed action in the past, and to which grammarians gave the mysterious title of "more than perfect." Something might have been said, too, of infinitives, which, according to scientific philologists, are not moods of a verb, but neurs. Per-haps, however, such comparisons and inquiries strictly fall within the function of the grammarian, and would have carried the editors beyond the limits of lexicog-We cannot but regret, howraphy. ever the occasional silence of the compilers about facts pregnant with suggestion touching the prehistoric condition of the Aryan settlers in Italy. Such is the curious circumstance that the word for "beech tree" in Latin means oak" in Greek. That the oak long preceded the beech in Europe seems to be demonstrated by the study of the Danish skovmoses. Does countered by the progenitors of the Romans was the beech and not the oak indicate a later date for their migration than for that of their Hellenic kinsman? It is true that some considerations point to a contrary conclusion. And in connection with this topic we are reminded of a view entertained y many philologists that the Celts were nearest to the Romans in ethnic relationship, and were thus enabled to absorb Latin civilization more promptly and completely. We presume that this theory did not commend itself to the compilers of this lexicon, otherwise their etymological notes would doubtless have comprised more references to Celtic counterparts.

The names and attributes of deities will be found defined and interpreted in the new dictionary, with a reasonable amount of attention to the results of comparaive mythology so far as these may be considered flust or certified by general ssent. For the most part the characters and functions of the genuine Latin divinities are differentiated from those of the Greek gods and goddesses in whom the Romans of the later republic and the empire were themselves too ger to recognize identity. The truth, of course, s that Zeus (Jovi-pater, Juppiter) and Hestia Vesta) were the only delties whom both the Greeks and Romans borrowed from their comion ancestors, and for some time preserved in their primeval lineaments. It seems to us that the article on Jupplier in this volume is less plequate than we might have expected from the editors. It is pointed out that the root of the word Zens (Jovis-Djovis) is akin to the Sanscrit verb duo, to shine, but nothing is said of the personification, Dyaus, "the bright Nor is any collective notice taken of the epithets which in the Roman worship gradually attached themselves to the simple concep-tion of the Supreme being, and gradually came to be thought of as denoting different deities, Such were Jurpiter Leucetius, the god of the bright daylight sky, widely worshipped throughout Italy, and Juppiter Summanus, god of the nightly heaven, who at last was principally invoked by thieves-Juppiter Feretrius. o whom a Roman General who had slain the General of the enemy brought his spells in triumph, and Juppiter Stator, supposed by the Romans themselves to be the "Stayer" Stablisher," but who is now known to have ad the same name given to him in India. As for the epithet of Pistor, this was probably conferred upon him because he was the god whose oits could crush his foes, but we observe that this lexicon cites Ovid's story to account for it. The attributes assigned to Mars. Hereules and Mercurius do not appear to be stated with quite the requisite precision. The descriptions, especially in the two latter cases, an swer much better to the conceptions of those Greek deities which have been confounded with them. Unlike Ares, Mars or Mayors was not primarily the god of war, but the god of growth and plenty. Hence the name Gradivus, by which he was often known, and hence the consecration to him of the first fruits of the year

and the season of the spring, the name of the

first month (Martius) being transferred from his own, Again, Hercules in the old Roman

mythology was the god of the homestead,

mainly of land and farm stock, he grew

eral and so of commerce. But he had really

consisted

and since property at first

of many functions belonging to the Greek divinity. A similar criticism may be made or the account of the Roman Venus, who was the goddess of purity and grace, and in many respects the converse of the laselyious Aphrodite Of course, the Venus Erycina mentioned in the lexicon's notice was not of Latin origin, but a Semitle divinity whose worship was introduced from Sicily as early as the war with Hannibal.

The thousands of words relating to the structure ture and workings of the Roman State, as well as to the civic, social, and family lifepopulation, seem to have been studied and expounded in the light of the ripest learning, so far as we may judge from most of the speci mens examined. From definitions here supplied, clear and authentic notions may be gleaned of the laws governing marriage and divorce, of slavery, together with the moder and consequences of omancipation, of the methods of industry and trade. The terms employed to designate the political mathinery are also, as a rule, fully plained. Now and then, however, strike an article which is hardly satisfac tory. Such is the definition of "plebs," which loses sight of the fact that the plebeians were aliens who had come to live in Rome, and who, therefore, according to the strict Roman no tions, had no genuine family life of their own, nor any claim to share in the family life of the city, with which the national worship was in-dissolubly associated. The patricians were doubtless influenced by other less creditable motives, but the secret of their obstinate resistance to the demands of the new-comers largely lay in a deep rooted wish to keep inviolate the urity of their religious rites.

We may add that in general the words con-nected with the Roman religious usages are least adequately defined. We are told, for instance, that the word " pontifex " means " high priest," and its application to the head of a dis-tinct priestly class like the Jewish Calaphas is noted without comment on the strange incon gruity. We need scarcely say that a pontifex was not a priest at all in the modern sense, but corresponded much more nearly to the present ministers of ecclesiastical affairs in France Germany. How little he was of an ecclesiastic is attested by the fact that Gains Julius Casar was pontifex maximus all the time that he was conquering Gaul. On the other hand, we find that the distinction is clearly brought out between the old Roman-function o the nugur, which was confined to observing the omens given by the flight or cries of birds, and the Etrurian profession of haruspex or soothsayer, which claimed to prophesy in much greater detail from the entrails of victims of fered in sacrifice. It is a curious fact that, although the latter became far more popular, it never took the same rank in the State. Even a free-thinker like Cicere was proud of his elec-

tion into the college of augurs. Of the numerous words and phrases relating to the convivial customs of the Romans we can draw attention to but one. We observe that cena" receives the alternative meanings-din ner or supper. The latter could only be a correct translation for those people, if there are, or ever were, who do not take their supper or last meal later than 3 o'clock in the afternoon. No doubt instances may be cited of a "cena" later than this, especially with those who were busy in the law courts till the tenth hour of the day, but the ninth hour was the usual time. If the banquet was intended to be particularly luxurious it was begun earlier, to dine "de die" being accounted a conclusive proof of extravagance and self-

Winter and its Dangers.

Under the above title Dr. H. Osgoop of Boston has contributed the latest addition to the series of American Health Primers, published by Lindsay & Blakiston. The topics discussed in this small volume are quite various, including the mischiefs produced in a specially aggravated form during the cold season of the year by insufficient clothing, carelessness in bathing, and indifference to ventilation, sunshine, and exercise. On some of these heads the author's riews will be found to differ from those of eminent European authorities, but it is fair to remember that our climate and modes of life may entail some divergence in the application of hygienic rules. We refer particularly to Dr. Osgood's strictures on the practice, so universal among the English upper classes, and which has numerous American votaries, that, namely, of taking a cold "tub" or shower bath on rising in the morning. The author seems to discover a species of irritation at the fact that people should be so "daft on the subject of morning bath that in salts of naturo's warnings" they persist in the mad habit and actually feel "morally superior" to the misguided ones who choose a more fitting hour for their ablutions.

Dr. Osmand profests, with engagement that a

oath before breakfast, like a long walk, or ride, for that matter, costs altogether too much, and is a grievous blunder regarded as a preparation for encountering a cold day. He declares that diminished power of resistance, lassitude, and lack of physical tone, are the natural resuits of a winter morning bath, only avoided in the case of exceptionally hardy and vigorous constitutions. He denies other authorities maintain, viz., that the capacity of prompt reaction and active circulation can be secured by the habitual application of cold water, followed, of course, by the requisite amount of friction. In his erusade against the morning bath he will not admit that the so-called hardening process can be vindicated by a priori argument or by experience. Curiously enough, however, he takes quite opposite ground in his suggestion for the right treatment of cold feet. Reminding us that many persons are constant sufferers from chilliness of the extremittes, he says the most "simple and sensible" means of overcoming the trouble is to dip the feet into cold water. after which, of course, they should be briskly rubbed with a crash towel or hair mitten until "Pursue the practice," he they are in a glow. continues, "twice daily, and in a short time the feet will remain warm for hours." It is a little difficult to see why a rule that works so well for one member should not answer in normal cases for the whole body. Of course nobody would claim that the cold morning bath is suited to all persons, or to the same person at all epochs of ife, or in all grades of physical condition. There are times when women, obviously, ought not to indulge in it. and, in like manner, young children should gradually be necustomed to the shock of immersion, if, indeed, their use of the cold bath should not always be regulated by Medical advice. So. too, a male adult who finds upon experiment the glow of reaction impossible or hard to com pass may reasonably gainsay the beneficial influence of cold water on his own system. He should be sure, however, that the experiment has been fairly tried-that he has proceeded by degrees from a bath slightly tepid, or just deprived of chilliness, to water suffered to remain in the bath room and thus acquire its temperature before plunging into the untempered element freshly drawn from pipe or well

In a chapter pertinently headed " Pulmonary Food," the author has collected a good many facts and suggestions bearing on the subject of entilation. He points out that while writers on hygiene differ somewhat as to the quantity of fresh air required by a single adult in r given room, yet twenty-five hundred cubic feet per hour. is generally deemed the amount compatible with comfort. Of course, in sick rooms the supply should be greater, according to the malady; a bad case of small pox, for instance, needing some 4.500 feet every hour. Dr. Osgood applies these data to household economy with interesting results. He takes what may be considered a room of average size in a somewhat affluent mansion; the apartment is fifteen feet square and twelve feet high, containing. therefore, 2,700 cubic feet of air, or a little more than enough to serve one person sixty minutes: nothing in common with the son of Zeus and the question is, will it be renewed after the ex-Depanira, the hero of the twelve labors. As for piration of the hour? To some extent, no measures, or of general schemes of policy." feeling of Englishmen, and it certainly must cognate branch of orthographical inquiry. Mercurius, whom this dictionary seems to doubt, through cracks in the floors and walls. No wonder that such declarations and a policy have been, had the matchless powers of the Again, as regards etymology, we have a right | identify with Hermes, the Romans knew in the and through joints in door frames and window Mercurius, whom this dictionary seems to doubt through cracks in the floors and walls,

frames, but these avenues are very likely be narrowed in proportion to the wealth of the occupant. The luxurious, very probably will have their double windows, their weather strips, heavy curtains, and portieres. They will actually spend money to keep out fresh oxygen. whereas the poor man in his house of imper-fect carpentry cannot hinder the inroad of fresh air in all directions. Happily, in these days of improved architecture and household equipent, the beauty and utility of open fires are fast gaining recognition, and we need not say that where these exist, a simple and effective means of ventilation is provided. Dr. Osgood's eminder is pertinent, however, that while the fireplace may be ornamented in summer with flowers and grasses, it must never be closed.

ART NOTES.

The want of an art exhibition in the early part of the winter has often been deplored, both y the general public and by artists. The latter have but limited opportunities of displaying neir works before the regular spring exhibi tions occur, and as many of them bring with hem in the autumn, on their return from the sountry, finished pictures representing the reshest and most effective things they have ver been able to do, they would be glad to show them publicly. Their out-of-door work is nearly always the best, and, in a great many cases is bought from their studios, so that most of the pictures upon the walls of the Academy and of the Society of American Artists are really studie work, elaborated from the studies and sketches of the previous summer. An exhibition, which will be the first serious attempt of the kind, will be opened next Wednesday at the Kurtz gallery. low known as the American Art Gallery. Near ly all the leading artists have sent in pictures, and there is reason to believe that the collection will be large and unusually interesting. Mr. F. A. Bridgeman has forwarded two pictures from Paris, both large and important subjects. Mr. Fuller of Boston, Mr. Sanford R. Gifford, Mr. W. M. Chase, Mr. Seymour Guy, Mr. James Hart, Mr. Bierstadt, Mr. William Hart, Mr. George Inness, Mr. Samuel Colman, and a num ber of others have also contributed. The exhibition will be held under the management of

Mr. J. S. Moore. A collection of statuary by Mr. C. B. Ives has een placed upon exhibition at Gustav Reichard's art gallery, 226 Fifth avenue. It consists of some little groups, single figures trait busts, which bring to mind Mr. Healy's vigorous explanations of the nature of contemporary sculpture in Italy. Several of the pieces are quite as interesting as the elaborate carving of pure white Carrara that were so conspicuous in the Italian department at the Centennial Exhibition. All belong to the sam entegory of harmless commercial statuary, involving no artistic extravagance, and conceived in a spirit of great mechanical agility and devotion to the polishing stick. Mr. Reichard has displayed these art treasures very neatly, and in his picture gallery affords some compensation for them by showing several very interesting pictures by foreign and American artists.

The opening of the Lenox Art Gallery tomorrow will be an occasion of unusual interest to every one in New York who is in any way concerned with art. The number of art students in our schools is unprecedented, and is far in excess of the teaching capacity afforded, and for these and students less practical, but also sincerely interested in the subject, the Lenox gallery gives an excellent opportunity for profitable study. Speaking of the art schools of the city, the opportunity for private endowment that is now presented recommends itself strongly. Perhaps the most deserving institution we have is the Art Students' League, which is self-supporting, but which, none the less on that account, feels itself crippled and inadequate to the demands made on its resources. A helping hand extended to it now would be of incalculable benefit, and would enable it to extend the sphere of its usefulness. with the most practical and gratifying results at a time when there is the best of material awaiting such development.

Questions and Answers.

To the Eutron of The Sen-Ser, I am a youth of se tern, residing at Flathosh L I, and an exceedingly strong of making a beginning in the. My chief and is to become a practical floriculturist, as that vec-sions to me highly instructive, cheering, and heaft was awakened, and the florist. That result

wers and my chief enjoyment werst artistic flave made from time to time several artistic lies for decorations, &c., which have been the pleasure for discovarious, &c., which have been the alimn of all my friends, you is to ascertain what intention. In additionable, you is to ascertain what adding authorities are relating to this grant branch noc. There has been written and circulated from introductial to the present day a wast amount of are on floricatione, but the guestion is, which is level to be the most authorize? which is the most authentic;
which is works of Linnaus, London, Lindley, Terrey,
Wood, Parsons or Rand, smithle for an ambitions
of the commence with? Would I not derive a great
of knowledge by commenting to work with a floriet
ound ig a brooklege for a nice. ent of knowledge by commenter wears and masses of should be to college to a few years and masses of an allower and history and beauty? The latter I min a position to do, my parents being in affinent circumstances. I have received a theral education, and can converse in the Encish, Butch, and French intensages, and have a sight Know often of Letin. Months and consciuded to consult you on the matter, but between less ever been staten leftand bod me to wait awhite.

Can you also before many whether there has ever been published a book or induplete. Fourthing the "tuling many and where lean purchase conjecture indisting 1634, and where lean purchase conjecture the article in the Sex, for reading the valuable information which that contains seems like drainer ambriests to me.

A Davotax or Flora any Linners.

A youth of 17, who loves flowers as well as you seem to do, and who is able, thanks to the affluent circumstances of his parents, to fit himself thoroughly for his work, ought to make a flori-ulturist to whom Flatbush will, one of these days, point with pride. Perhaps you may never be able to reproduce in Flatbush those triumphs of the gardener's art which so charmed and excited you in the Low Countries. but that is a question that can be settled only by trying. You are right in thinking that gardening is a healthful as well as pleasant occupation; only you must be on your guard against the danger of becoming round shouldered from stooping over your plants. Yes, the authors you name are the very ones whom you should study, though perhaps a previous reading of some more elementary treatises might be of advantage. As your parents are rich enough to send you to college, you should think twice before turning your back on the chance; a gardener cannot know too much. After you get through college, you will probably do a wise thing to study and practise under an experienced florist for a while before setting up on your own account. A good deal has been written first and last, about the tulip mania. Phillips, in his "Flora Historien," gives a very good but brief account of it; but a netter one can be found in the "History of Popular Delusions," which is often to be picked up at our second-hand book stores. You will also find something on the subject in Knight's Penny Magazine and in Chambers's "Tracts for the People," What you say about your study of

things to have in the gardening business, or in any other business. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sor: Please in orm me whether a House Cathonic can be President and United States. Jan Monay, 221 East Thirteell street Yes, if he was born in this country, if he s over 35 years of age, if the people through he Electoral Colleges choose him to the office, and if he is not counted out,

THE SUN IS A little flowery, as befits a coming

florist, but it shows that you have good sense as well as a love of the beautiful. These are fine

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Will you leave inform me through the columns of the Sun-thellier a custon has to pay for the privilege of voting in ew York!

No.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SER-No. Are the citizens of the property of Columbia entities to vote ter Presidential lectors?

THO SUBJECTION NO. No.

The Learned Young Ludles of Boston.

From the Harriert Crimica.
"Where are you going, my pretty man."
I am going to the Annex, air," site said. "What to do there, my pretty maid."" I sin going to be cultured, sir," she said.

What are your studies, my aretty maid?" Chause and Quarternions, ar," she said. "Then whom will you marry, my pretty maid?"
"Cultured girls don' marry, etc., she said. BAVINGS BANKS IN EUROPE.

The extent to which savings institutions are being developed in Europe must be no-counted a good augury of social progress. There is doubtless a wide difference in the measure of patronage which such establishments enjoy in different countries, and in certain cases other means of investment bave been found equally safe and more lucrative, On the whole, however, the statistics on this topic throw much light on important reonomical questions, and for that reason we avail ourselves of some data recently compiled for the Reene Britannique.

At present it is not Great Britain, but the German empire, which exhibits the greatest expansion of savings bank transactions. Alike in the number of depositors, and in the aggregate sum deposited, it surpasses the United Kingdom. Thus Prussia sione, at the begin-ning of 1878, contained 1,080 establishments, representing upward of two and a half midion separate accounts, and a total deposit of \$325,000,000. At a somewhat earlier period the kingdom of Saxony possessed 144 banks, with more than half a million customers, having to their credit funds exceeding \$57,000,000. In Bavaria, at the latest date for which statistics are forthcoming, there were 200 institutions, in which some 280,000 depositors had placed about \$12,000,000. The kingdom of Wurtemerg possesses more than six score banks, including branches, whose clients (not enumerated in the official documents) are credited with some \$14,000,000. The Grand Duchy of Baden has gone further in the same way, since its ninety-nine establishments comprehend more than 440,000 customers, and a numed fund fabout \$21,000,000. Without citing in detail the returns of minor States, we may say that the ssets of German savings banks representedectively some \$450,000,000. Passing to the Austro-Hungarjan Empire, we

acte that the Germani and Bohemian provinces

of the Hapsburgs have made notable progress n this direction. According to the latest data available, there were in Austria 275 savings institutions, with upward of one and a quarter million of customers, and a total fund of about \$275,000,000. In the other molety of the empire, owing to unscrupulous management, such establishments command but little confidence, and since the crisis of 1873, less than \$80,000,000 stand to the credit of depositors in the Hungarian savings banks. Turning to France, where savings institutions are not specially popular, we find the whole number of accounts opened fall but little short of 3,000,000, but the whole sum due depositors does not much surpass \$170,000,000. In Great Britain, where the savings bank system seems to have started somewhat earlier than on the Continent, the number of private institutions is stated at 474. aggregating 1,460,000 depositors, while their united assets somewhat exceed \$200,000,000; To these must be added the far more numerous ostal savings banks, which have not far from 700,000 depositors, and a total fund of nearly \$120,000,000. The same competition exists in Italy between the private and postal establishnents, and altogether the number of depositors at the beginning of last year was not far short of 1,200,000, while the aggregate assets exceeded \$150,000,000. In Holland saving banks are very sparingly patronized, small capitalists preferring to invest in the funded debt of foreign countries. At the last date reported 183 establishments had less than 100,000 depositors, and their united assets did not reach \$6,000,000. From Belgium the statistics are imperfect, but nine private institutions are credited with more than 40,000 customers, contributing a depositrof, \$4,000,000, and the National Savings Bank, with its branches, has about 130,000 accounts, and aggregate assets amounting to nearly \$9,000,000, The record of Scandinavian countries is more favorable. Denmark, for example, at the close of 1876, exhibited as many depositors' books as there are families in the kingdom, and the wholesum due depositors was \$65,000,000. In Sweden the number of customers approaches 600,000, but their savings only gate \$30,000,000. The Norwegian banks. on the other hand, with only 220,000 customers, show a total deposit of \$26,-000,000. Passing to Switzerland, we observe that savings bank transactions have been largely extended during the past fifteen years. In the ast year reported, 312 institutions had nearly 550,000 depositors, while their united assets fell but little short of \$60,000,000. Russia, as might have been expected, seems to be the most backward of European countries, although no statistics are procurable for Spain and Portugal, or for Greece, Turkey and Roumania. According to the latest returns, all the Russian banks ommanded less than 70,000 customers, and an aggregate deposit of less than \$4,000,000. Pinland, as usual, presents a more promising record, having some thirty-six institutions, with nearly 19,000 clients, and an agregate fund

A word as to the rates of interest until and the imitations imposed by law on the investment of deposits. In Prussia depositors receive from 35 to 5 per cent., but a wide discretion is tolrated in the management of their money, even the discounting of commercial paper being permitted. In Austria, likewise, the banks are allowed to buy merchants' bills, and it was the abuse of this practice which gravely damaged the Hungarian establishments in public esteem. In the German provinces of the Hapsburg empire the rate of interest varies from 4 to 6 per cent. In Great Britain all the assets of private as well as postal savings institutions must now be invested in public funds. The same thing may be said of France, where all deposits must be placed in the 4 per cents; and as each bank deducts from the interest its expenses, it is plain that their clients would do better to place their economics directly in the public obligations, which, as a matter of fact, the mass of the population prefer to do. On the whole, it may be said that, with the exception of France and the United Kingdom, the laws governing the investments of saving institutions in Europe seem deficient in strictness; but we should mention that great pains are taken, in most instances, to proven abuses through a system of official control.

STAMPING OUT SLANDER.

The Personal Appearance of an Actres Via diented by her Husband.

From the Lunden Erst. SIR: Your Issue of the Era of the 5th mst. ntains a False and Most Maleconis Librion My Wife! Miss Sarah Novara.

You are made the medium of publishing to he world that "the Lady's appearance was not the world that "the Lady's appearance was not much in her favor," them which a cone wife. Falss hood was never printed.

There is not the shadow of a shade of excust for such a shauncless an exaction. On the contrary, I (who was shring in the Stalls) heard the people in the Pit Press to held Breaths and say, as she not Readyless and adoptive said. She is not like an Angel!

To do us you have done is to I were Miss Norwa's Prospects in her Protession that seriously, and entitles her to claim as a like a page from you.

onsly, and entities her to claim very three ages from year.

I call upon you, therefore, to give it the name of this Most Guenedly and the learners of this Most Guenedly and the London and Instruct my solicities. At Haynes & Sons, Greenan Chambers, For commences an action against you. The mry lave only to look into the Miss Novara in order to see sharped if the thereof leadily of a Very light of Talent such as has not been seen in the since the days of Sarah Saddons.

Ask Mr. Willis, Dramatic Act of Ayenne, 76 Falman Road, what he tooks appearance and howill relive to the thin in his similar that he could get before Boyalty Theatre. But that she was set that I for the Manageress (Miss Endy).

TO PERMIT OF IT.

TO PERMIT OF IT."
As we waite in London, and as we As we wak in London, and as we do Men and work in London, and as we do Men and work in the portrait practice as some for paint for portrait graticious spinoared in the instant of Julia.

She has Eves ast like a Gos de media for ried off the Prize for "An done in versity of Edinburgh toll you that for each spinoared proportional a figure Ask Mr. Joan Ryder what betteres him, also, whether he knows my her standards subject to the fraudicipies of the late disappoint who does limised the home of system who does limised the home of system yours faithfully. Homen't Mills & Surgeon Major on the lettred Los of the Army.

18 Cliff Torrace, Margate, 6th October 1879